

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00
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O R 131652Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1527
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US
SUBJ: COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S APPEARANCE BEFORE SFRC

REF: STATE 162201

1. ONLY MORNING LIBERAL, OPPOSITION TO VIMA, ITS AFTERNOON SISTER TA NEA AND LEFTIST ELEFTHEROTYPIA HAVE ACCORDED COVERAGE TODAY (JUNE 13) OF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE SCHAUFLE'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE YESTERDAY. ACCOUNT BY VIMA'S NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT STATHIS ESTATHIADIS WAS FRONT PAGE MATERIAL, TOGETHER WITH PHOTOGRAPHS, IN THE FIRST TWO DAILIES, WHILE ELEFTHEROTYPIA PRINTED A VERY BRIEF ITEM ON ITS LAST PAGE. THE REST OF THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINTED MEDIA, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THE ATHENS-WASHINGTON TIME DIFFERENCE, HAVE NOT YET CARRIED THE STORY.

2. ESTATHIADIS' FILE FROM NEW YORK COMBINED A DESCRIPTION OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S SFRC APPEARANCE WITH THE STORY OF THE NAMSA MILITARY SALES TO TURKEY (REFTEL) UNDER THE HEADLINE, "NATO CLANDESTINELY SUPPLIES TURKEY WITH MISSILES." TWO SUB-TITLES
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READ: "THE PENTAGON CONFESSES AND PROMISES INVESTIGATIONS" AND "THE NEW US AMBASSADOR ATTRIBUTES THE AEGEAN CRISIS TO 'UNUSUAL' GEOGRAPHIC ARRANGEMENTS OF THE PAST." FOLDED INTO THE SAME NEWS COLUMNS WERE STORIES DATED ANKARA ON THE TURKISH MILITARY EXERCISE, "SEA LION 77" IN THE AEGEAN AND THE THREAT OF A UNION STRIKE IN TURKEY AGAINST THE FORMATION OF A DEMIREL GOVERNMENT.

3. AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE WAS REPORTED BY ESTATHIADIS TO HAVE SAID:

--THAT THE AEGEAN PROBLEM IS VERY MUCH MORE CRITICAL THAN THE CYPRUS QUESTION, AND THAT THE AEGEAN DISPUTE WAS DUE TO THE "UNUSUAL GEOGRAPHIC ARRANGEMENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THE PAST."

--THAT, RESPONDING TO SENATOR SARBANES, THE STRENGTHENING OF THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN GREECE IS AMONG THE IMPORTANT MOTIVATING FORCES BEHIND AMERICAN POLICY.

--THAT THERE HAS BEEN SLOW PROGRESS ON CYPRUS, THAT THE CLIFFORD MISSION HAD BEEN USEFUL AND THERE WAS GENERAL OPTIMISM ABOUT (RELATED) DEVELOPMENTS.

--THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH ANKARA HAD BEEN SUSPENDED DUE TO THE TURKISH ELECTIONS BUT WOULD BE RESUMED IN THE FALL.

4. THE TA NEA COVERAGE FOLLOWED THE TO VIMA PRESENTATION CLOSELY. THE ELEFTHERTYPIA ACCOUNT, ALSO BASED ON THE ESTATHIADIS REPORT, WAS BACKPAGE MATERIAL UNDER THE HEADLINE "IS THE NEW US AMBASSADOR A TURKOPHILE?" IT NOTED ONLY THE AMBASSADOR'S ALLEGED COMMENTS ON THE PAST "UNUSUAL GEOGRAPHIC ARRANGEMENTS" CONCERNING THE AEGEAN AND ON US SUPPORT FOR GREEK DEMOCRATIC FORCES.

5. COMMENT: DURING SEVERAL FAREWELL CALLS BY AMBASSADOR JULY 13, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM, GREEK OFFICIALS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT STATE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENTS ATTRIBUTED TO AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE, ESPECIALLY ON CERTAIN PROBLEMS OF GREAT CONCERN TO GREECE. AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT EMBASSY HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THE TEXT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S HEARING BEFORE SFRC AND HAD ONLY GREEK NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS TO GO BY.

6. ACTION REQUEST: PLEASE SEND TEXT OF SFRC EXCHANGE AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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